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## GERMANY'S BIGGEST BALTIC PORT RAIDED

### Nazis Make New Stand on Polish Frontier

#### RESISTANCE TO SOVIETS STIFFENED

Field Marshal von Mannstein Takes Up Position to Stop Russians

By Associated Press  
The German army of Field Marshal von Mannstein has retreated to the Pripiet Marshes and reformed for another stand along the prewar Polish frontier west and south of Olevsk, the customs station which the Soviets captured Monday.

This stiffened resistance on the main route from Kiev to Warsaw developed as the massive drive of General Vatutin's First Ukraine Army swept southward toward the Dniester River and the prewar Rumanian border at an accelerated pace after the capture of Berdichev, pivotal rail center 20 miles south of Zhitomir.

Frontline dispatches say that von Mannstein has taken up positions favorable for defense, the left flank protected by the marshes, and is

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#### The Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON  
(Major Robert S. Allen on active duty.)

WASHINGTON—FDR came into 1944 with one of the greatest gifts given to any President or any person—miraculous good health.

In his party on the trip to Cairo and Tehran was his personal physician, Rear Admiral Ross T. McIntire. As soon as they got back to Washington, Admiral McIntire put his patient on the scales to see how much he had gained or lost.

This has been the prime index of the President's health from the beginning. Since he cannot take regular exercise, it has always been a problem to keep his weight within normal range. When he came into office in 1933, his weight was 186, and Mr. McIntire has held it within the range of 184 to 191 ever since.

When he looked at the scales after Tehran, the Admiral's eyes brightened. The figure was 188. He was afraid the heavy dining and lack of swimming might have brought on extra weight—or, conversely, the hard travel and tension might have reduced the President's weight dangerously.

"The fact that he stood this trip without substantial change of weight is a good indication of his physical condition," says McIntire. "Anything under 190 is satisfactory."

The trip was less of a strain than those to Casablanca or Quebec, because the conferees did not keep the usual Churchillian hours. Churchill was not well, and he let the others go to bed early. There were no late sessions.

Coming at the end of a hard year, this indicates that Roosevelt, more than any other President, has mastered the art of health under strain. For ten years he has maintained a pace which has killed other Presidents in a shorter time.

#### SECRET OF FDR'S HEALTH

Secret of FDR's health is a combination of three factors—his periodic change of environment, in a trip to Hyde Park or a cruise down the Potomac; his ability to put aside troubles and sleep soundly; and his willingness to submit to limitations of diet.

The President eats three meals a day like any ordinary citizen, and he has not gone in for the new-fangled notion that it is better to eat four or five light meals a day. But when he is tired, or has cold, he skips a meal entirely, or simply has milk toast or a bowl of rice.

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STIRLING SILHOUETTE—Outlined against the gathering dusk of a winter afternoon is a Stirling, one of Britain's important and best known bomber types.

#### MARINES IN BIG DRIVE, GLOUCESTER

Invading Forces Forging Ahead—Five Nips Down in Air Attack, Said

BULLETIN—London, Jan. 6.—A radio broadcast from Berlin, picked up here, quotes a DNB dispatch from Tokyo stating that Australian troops have made a new landing on Cape Gumbi, on the north coast of New Guinea.

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NEW GUINEA, Jan. 6.—The United States Marines at invaded Cape Gloucester, New Britain, have driven east three miles, using tanks and guns.

A strong force of Marines attached to the U. S. Sixth Army has pushed in the direction of Borgen Bay against stiff Japanese resistance. All enemy opposition, and several counter-attacks have been repulsed.

Five Nip planes were downed attempting to attack the American forces at Saidor where the Yanks have extended their holdings.

A bomber of the South Pacific Air Force scored a direct hit on an enemy cruiser at Kavieng, New Ireland, and two heavy cruisers were severely damaged, if not sunk, by South Pacific bombers from a carrier in the same area a few days ago.

Two Japanese freighters have also been blown up at Koepang, Timor. The Australians have pushed along on Huon Peninsula in the vicinity of Cape King William, less than 80 airline miles from Saidor.

#### Ketchikan City Fathers Enact Role of Cupid

KETCHIKAN, Alaska, Jan. 6.—With Congress in a log jam of subsidies, the Ketchikan City Council expressed approval of the principle of voting brunettes, comely City Clerk Leah Bradley took weeks' extra vacation for "honeymoon purposes," provided she "takes proper cognizance of the meaning of leap year."

The action was taken, Councilman Harry McCain said, with the proviso that she unchange her employer this year while changing her name, and also unjoin the WACs or the WAVES.

Miss Bradley is a former teacher here and hails from Coquille, Oregon.

#### Paramushiro Island Blasted by American Planes, Aleutian Bases

#### IDA TARBELL, DEAN, WOMEN AUTHORS, DIES

First Became Known in "Muckraking" Era—Authority on Lincoln

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Jan. 6.—Ida M. Tarbell, 86, dean of American women authors, is dead as the result of pneumonia.

Ida M. Tarbell, first becoming widely known in the "muckraking" era of magazine writing when she indited scathing articles on John D. Rockefeller, Sr., and the Standard Oil Company, later was recognized as a biographer of unusual skill and especially as an authority on Abraham Lincoln.

She also was a humanitarian, a feminist and a deep student of sociological questions, especially those relating to women in business and industry.

#### Dissected S. O.

Miss Tarbell's dissection of the structure and methods of the old Standard Oil Company, the nation-wide corporation dissolved in 1911 by the Supreme Court of the United States, was written in the early years of the century. It was contemporaneous with Lincoln Steffens' "Shame of the Cities" and Charles Edward Russell's "Soldiers of the Common Good," the chief sponsor of all this work being S. S. McClure.

#### Magazine Editor

Miss Tarbell devoted five years to the research on which her oil articles were based and during that time was an associate editor of "McClure's Magazine." She depicted Rockefeller and his early associates as ruthless barons of business intent on building up an oil monopoly for personal aggrandizement. The work later was edited, collated in two volumes and published in 1904 as "A History of the Standard Oil Company."

#### Born on Farm

Ida Minerva Tarbell was born on a farm in Erie County, Pennsylvania, November 5, 1857. The land had been cleared by a grandfather whom she knew, soap was still made on the place in her girlhood and much of the winter meat was cured venison from deer killed in adjacent forests.

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BY NORMAN BELL  
Associated Press War Correspondent  
ALEUTIAN BASE, Jan. 6.—American raiding planes blasted the Japs on Paramushiro Island on New Year's Day.

Manned by full sized crews, the bombers braved the wintry North Pacific skies at night to keep the first 1944 date with the enemy on its home soil.

It is cold at Paramushiro Island, colder than in the Aleutians.

Crashing high explosives, bombs routed the Japs from their warm beds in the middle of the night.

The bombers of the North Pacific Task force, the group under which the Navy and Army planes are operating, arrived over the big Paramushiro base after midnight on New Year's Day, Japan time, after a long flight from the Aleutian base.

Commodore Gehres, Commanding the fleet of the Air Wing said: "New Years is a big holiday for Japan. We wanted to help them celebrate. We stirred them up, all right. We could tell by their excited radio chatter."

Sixty 626 pounders were dropped but because of the darkness it was impossible to determine the damage done. All planes returned safely.

Lt. Joseph Peter Weibler, who led the mission, reported it was so cold, the windshields iced inside and outside and the bombers and escorting planes reached their targets by risking the uncertainty of the weather and overcoming navigational difficulties.

The bombers were met by anti-aircraft fire and at least one of the night fighter planes and one of the bombers were caught in the concentration of Jap searchlights but managed to escape in the clouds before the ground fire could be concentrated.

#### ROOSEVELT IS SHAKING OFF GRIPPE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—President Roosevelt is still trying to shake off the effects of the gripple but remained in his White House quarters today and continued to work on his annual message to Congress to be delivered next Tuesday, probably in person.

#### BIG PROBE IS STARTED ON SHIPPING

Cracking of Liberty Ships in Alaska Waters Investigated Now

SEATTLE, Jan. 6.—Merchant mariners "were ready to jump overboard from Liberty ships at the drop of the hat," but continued to sail them for a year lest being accused of sabotaging the war effort, one union official told interviewers after conferring with Sen. Mon C. Wallgren, here making an investigation into the "cracking" of nine such vessels in the Pacific.

James Greathouse, "patrolman" of the Pacific Coast Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders and Wipers Association, said: "We have kept our mouths shut about war information. If we complained about the Liberty ships, there would have been a wave of indignation about our sabotaging the war effort, so we kept sailing them. Now, Wallgren and Magnuson are bringing out the fact. That's a good thing. Our men are getting sick and tired of it. The Government should not compel any man to go out on those ships, they ought to be junked."

Wallgren Investigating  
Sen. Wallgren, on investigating Liberty ships, has called for immediate halt in conversion of the ships to troop transports and cited similarity in the cracking of five freighters. They were:

The Ss. John P. Gaines, one-half of which foundered in Alaska waters November 25, with a presumed loss of 10 lives.

The Ss. Valery Chkalov, a lend-lease Liberty ship sailing under the Russian flag, both halves of which were towed separately into Adak, Alaska, without loss of life.

#### Ships Make Port

The Ss. James M. Whistler, which cracked to 7 feet below the water line, and, although opening and closing 1½ feet, made an Alaskan port.

The Ss. John C. Ainsworth, which also cracked at No. 3 hatch and was patched in an Alaskan port.

The Ss. Chief Washakie, which parted at No. 3 hatch outboard and down both sides when 50 miles out of Dutch Harbor. Held only by her doublebottoms, she made port, was patched and is now docked here.

Congressman Warren G. Magnuson also making a probe, boarded the Ss. Henderson Luelling.

#### Master Makes Statement

After inspecting cracks at both the fore and after ends of No. 4 hatch on the Luelling, Magnuson took a statement from her master Capt. August Eckholm, who was also master of the S. S. Joseph Henry

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#### BELGIANS WARNED ON INVASION

Are Told to Keep in Homes when Military Operations Start

LONDON, Jan. 6.—In the name of the High Command of the United Nations, the British Broadcasting Company today radioed preinvasion pleas to the Belgians to remain home when the military operations get underway.

The broadcast said: "If you are on roads you will obstruct the Allied air forces which must be free to attack the enemy's communications."

#### Major Boyington Gets 26th Nip Plane; Ties Record of Major Foss

GUADALCANAL, In the Solomons, Jan. 6.—Major Gregory Boyington of Okanogan, Washington, is officially credited with shooting down his 26th Jap plane to tie the record set by his fellow Marine, Maj. Joe Foss.

Boyington, who is 30, is a former member of the Flying Tigers in China.

Boyington got his 26th Jap in a raid over the Rapopo airdrome when he downed six out of 20 intercepting Zeros. Five more are listed as probables. Two Corsairs were lost.

#### Fire Fighting in Zero Weather



Spray from streams of water played on a burning manufacturing building froze on this Chicago fire engine and nearby pole and electric wires. Firemen quelled the five-alarm blaze in near zero weather. (AP Wirephoto)

#### Congress Took Recess By Letting Nation Go Bump; Action Delayed

By JACK STINNETT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The capital has one topic of conversation that went through the holidays, namely: that if ever a session of Congress let the country down, the one just concluded did.

That summer recess, when members of the House and Senate were supposed to go back home for a lot of political pulse-taking, was to get great results. Members came back with dukes up and heads full of ideas. Nobody doubted that the session would be a stormy one, but nobody doubted either that big things would be done.

So what happened? Three months later Congress folded for the holidays. The tax bill (some \$8,000,000,000-odd short of Treasury demands) was left hanging between the House and Senate. So was the mustering out pay for service men. So was the problem of votes for the service men and women. So was the wage increase for non-operating railroad workers, in spite of the fact that a strike impends. So was the crude oil price increase.

The vital subsidy program, on which our whole pattern of inflation or inflation-controls may be based, was sidetracked until February 17.

The poll-tax battle also was sidetracked as southern Senators from eight States which would be affected, threatened a filibuster.

The cradle-to-grave social security plan, urged by the President months ago, still languished in committees.

On the positive side, Congress backed up the administration's foreign policy with a vote of confidence for some sort of participation in postwar international co-operation for world peace.

With a good deal of fanfare and much words, it passed the innocuous law declaring that pre-Pearl Harbor fathers shouldn't be called up in the draft until other sources were exhausted — a policy that Selective Service had announced months before.

Investigating committees made most of the headlines as war extravaganzas and executive department ineptnesses were delved into, but out of all these investigations there didn't come one piece of constructive legislation. Bills were introduced and they may be considered after the second session of the 78th Congress convenes next Monday, but to date the score is zero.

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#### STETTIN IS BOMBED BY AIR FLEET

Attack Is Carried Out in Moonlight — Berlin Hit Second Night in Row

#### MARITIME LIFELINE IS BEING BATTERED

Ninety-five Nazi Planes Credited with Being Downed by Raiders

LONDON, Jan. 6.—Germany's biggest port on the Baltic, Stettin, was blasted by the Royal Air Force heavy town wreckers last night and Berlin was bombed by Mosquito raiders.

The double edged assault is calculated to disrupt the emergency supply and to stem the battered Capital from recovery and shatter the maritime lifeline to the Russian front.

The Stettin assault was carried out in bright moonlight on a heavy scale and a storm of bombs was let loose on well concentrated objectives.

Besides hitting Berlin for the second night in a row, thus allowing the Capital City but one night's surcease since Sunday, Mosquitoes also directed other blows at targets in western Germany and northern France.

Fifteen aircraft were lost. Assorted attacks included a 1,300 mile round trip to raid Stettin, port city of 260,000 population, and 75 miles northeast of Berlin. Stettin was last hit on April 20 when 90 buildings and a 50 acre chemical factory were destroyed.

Dispatches received in London from Stockholm report the arsenal and important Deutsche Werke naval shipyard at Kiel, were almost completely destroyed in yesterday's heavy bomber raids by big U. S. bombers and escorting fighters. The raiders are credited with also shooting down 95 Nazi planes, the biggest score since December 11 in the attack on Emden when 138 fighters were destroyed.

#### FIFTH ARMY FIGHTING IN SAN VITTORE

Long Awaited Offensive of Clark's Men Starts in Driving Storm

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN ALGIERS, Jan. 6.—Mud-caked American troops, opening the long awaited Fifth Army offensive with British troops on a 10-mile front in driving sleet and rain, have smashed and battered their way inside the pillbox maze at San Vittore, where they are fighting the Germans for the remaining half of the town.

American and British ground forces, supported by wave upon wave of American Invader dive bombers which twisted through low hanging clouds to lay salvos of bombs on the enemy's gun positions, advanced an average of a mile the first day of the offensive along the 10-mile front.

The advance is on a front five miles wide on either side of the Via Casilina, main road to Cassino and Rome. The British surged forward in the five mile southern half of the sector from west of

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